

## REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the Office Action of December 28, 2009 and the indication of allowable subject matter. This Amendment is in full response thereto. Thus, Applicants respectfully request continued examination and allowance of the application.

By the amendments submitted herewith, Applicants have cancelled claims 18-20, 25, and 27-30 and amended claims 21-23 and 31-33 to incorporate the limitations of claims 18, 20, 27, and 30, from which they previously depended. Claims 21-24, 26, and 31-37 remain pending in the application.

### Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 18-20, 25 and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Maeda, et al. (USPN 3,889,488). By the amendments submitted herewith, claims 18-20, 25, and 27-30 have been cancelled. Therefore, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

## CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is believed that the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Should the examiner believe a telephone call would expedite the prosecution of the application, he/she is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

It is not believed that any fee is due at this time. If that belief is incorrect, please debit deposit account number 01-1375. Also, the Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment to deposit account number 01-1375.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: **March 26, 2010**

/Patricia E. McQueeney/

Patricia E. McQueeney  
Registration No. 49,083

Air Liquide  
2700 Post Oak Blvd., 18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Houston, Texas 77056  
Phone: 302-286-5458  
Fax: 713-624-8950